

Message Text

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45

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 AID-20 ACDA-19 MC-02

CG-00 IGA-02 EB-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /113 W

----- 076330

R 281417Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0849

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN SAUDI ARABIA

COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 0539

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS :MASS, PINS, BA

SUBJECT :BAHRAIN COASTAL SURVEY

REF :STATE 146029 AND MANAMA 352

1) DEVELOPMENT OF BAHRAIN COAST GUARD AS RESULT OF USG RECOMMENDATIONS WAS DISCUSSED AUG 26 DURING CHARGE'S PERIODIC MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER. SHAIKH KHALIFA, THE COUNTRY'S TOUGH, HARDWORKING AND REMOTE LEADER, SECOND ONLY TO AMIR IN AUTHORITY, DECIDES ALL SECURITY MATTERS. HIS COMMENTS GAVE STRONG IMPRESSION GOB HAD NOT YET DECIDED HOW BEST TO PROCEED ON USG RECOMMENDATIONS ON CREATING MUCH NEEDED COAST GUARD. WHILE SPEAKING GUARDEDLY HE CLEARLY HOPES TO RECEIVE OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE FOR TRAINING AND SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT FROM USG.

2) RESPONDING TO SUGGESTION THAT SAUDI ARABIA MIGHT BE NATURAL COLLABORATOR IN BOTH ASPECTS OF BUILDING COAST GUARD, PRIMIN SAID SAUDIS HAD PROMISED ALL HELP. AT SAME TIME HE WAS UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THOUGHT OF ASKING SAUDI ARABIA FOR ASSISTANCE. WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT WAS ON HIS MIND, BUT WHILE BAHRAINIS FEEL CLOSE TO SAUDIS, THEY SEEM WARY OF AID ENTANGLEMENTS WITH THEIR LARGE
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NEIGHBOR. FONMIN ONCE COMMENTED TO CHARGE ON SUBJECT OF BAHRAIN'S POTENTIAL AID DONORS THAT KUWAIT AND ABU DHABI WERE MORE

SATISFACTORY SOURCES THAN SAUDI ARABIA.

3) THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE EXPLAINED TO PRIMIN TYPES OF TRAINING USG COULD OFFER IN COAST GUARD WORK AS REQUESTED MANAMA REFTEL. BELIEVE IT ESSENTIAL WE HAVE THIS INFO IN FORM OF OFFER, IF POSSIBLE, AND FURTHER INFO ON POSSIBLE WAYS USG MIGHT BE HELPFUL TO GOB IN FINANCING COSTS OF EQUIPMENT.

4) PRIMIN CONFIRMED HE WAS AWARE OF AVCO APPROACH AND PROPOSAL ON DEVELOPING COAST GUARD, BUT OFFERED NO SUBSTANTIVE REACTION. RE STATE REFTEL, IT HAS TO BE KEPT IN MIND THAT POLICE DIRECTOR GENERAL BELL, AVCO'S PGUNT OF CONTACT, IS STRICTLY IN TECHNICAL ROLE. HIS INTEREST IN RECEIVING AVCO PROPOSAL WAS TO OBTAIN INFO TO PUT BEFORE PRIMIN. LATTER SEEMS TO BE HOPING TO HEAR FROM USG, AND WE MIGHT INDUCE MOVEMENT IF WE COULD DO SOMETHING FOR GOB IN FIELD OF TRAINING, BOTH IN US AND IN BAHRAIN.
STEIN

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